

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 11434 121624Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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R 121618Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
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INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

S E C R E T LONDON 11434

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: US, UK, IS, SHUM
SUBJECT: BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY'S INTEREST IN
ISRAELI TREATMENT OF ARAB PRISONERS AND IN
SOUTHERN LEBANON

1. DURING INFORMAL DISCUSSION WITH EMBOFF JULY 12 FCO ASSISTANT UNDERSECRETARY WEIR AND FCO HEAD OF NEAR EAST DEPT TOMKYS SAID THEY THOUGHT AT NEXT MEETING BETWEEN SECRETARY VANCE AND DR. OWEN, LATTER MIGHT ASK THE SECRETARY'S VIEWS ON THE SUNDAY TIMES REPORT ON ALLEGED ISRAELI MISTREATMENT OF ARAB PRISONERS (LONDON 10138 AND 10612; A-429, A-441 AND A-455). TOMKYS THOUGHT THAT DR. OWEN, IN VIEW OF HIS INTEREST IN INTERNATIONAL PEACE-KEEPING ARRANGEMENTS, MIGHT ALSO ASK THE SECRETARY FOR HIS VIEWS ON THE FEASIBILITY OF OR PROSPECTS FOR AN INTERNATIONAL PEACE-KEEPING ORGANIZATION IN SOUTH LEBANON. WEIR SAID THAT THE FCO HAS NO NEW IDEAS ON HOW TO WORK OUT AN ARAB-ISRAELI SETTLEMENT, AND IS MERELY WATCHING BEGIN'S MOVES APPREHENSIVELY.

2. TOMKYS SAID THAT THE SUNDAY TIMES HAS GIVEN THE FCO
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A COPY OF ITS DOCUMENTATION ON THE JUNE 19 STORY ON ALLEGED ISRAELI TORTURE OF ARAB PRISONERS (JERUSALEM 939). TOMKYS SAID THE VOLUMES WEIGHED AS MUCH AS THREE TELEPHONE BOOKS. WEIR SAID THE FCO DOES NOT AT PRESENT PLAN TO COMMENT PUBLICLY ON THE STORY, AND DOES NOT EXPECT THAT THERE WILL BE ANY PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE ON IT.

3. ACCORDING TO SUNDAY TIMES OF JULY 10, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL IS TO ASK ISRAEL TO ALLOW AN INDEPENDENT COMMISSION OF INQUIRY TO EXAMINE THE ISSUES RAISED BY THE JUNE 19 REPORT. WE ASSUME THE INSTRUCTION IN STATE 149835 WOULD COVER INQUIRIES TO AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AS WELL AS THE SUNDAY TIMES AND THEREFORE WE DO NOT PLAN TO ASK AI ABOUT THE MATTER.

4. MOST RECENT PRESS ARTICLES ON THIS MATTER POUCHED BY AIRGRAM.

BREWSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 12-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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